Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) An optical modulation apparatus that modulates a light flux emitted from a light source according to image information, the optical modulation apparatus comprising:

an optical modulation device; and

a transparent plate bonded to, and in contact with, substantially the entire at least one surface of the optical modulation device.

2. (Previously Presented) The optical modulation apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a polarizer bonded to said transparent plate.

3. (Previously Presented) The optical modulation apparatus according to Claim 1,

said transparent plate having a surface and the surface of said transparent plate being coated with a surface active agent, or treated for electrostatic protection.

4. (Previously Presented) A projector comprising:

a light source;

an optical modulation device that modulates a light flux emitted from the light source according to image information;

a projection unit that magnifies and projects the light flux modulated by said optical modulation device; and

a transparent plate formed on a light emitting surface of said optical modulation device, the transparent plate formed on, and in contact with, substantially the entire light emitting surface of said optical modulation device.

5. (Previously Amended) The projector according to Claim 4, further comprising:

an antireflection film formed on at least one surface of said transparent plate.

6. (Previously Amended) The projector according to Claim 4,

said transparent plate having a thickness and said projection unit having a focal depth, and the thickness of said transparent plate being set larger than the focal depth of said projection unit.

7. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 4, further comprising:

a polarizer having an optical axis interposed between said transparent plate and said projection unit, said transparent plate being made of a drawing resin and having an optical axis, and the optical axis of said transparent plate substantially aligns with the optical axis of said polarizer.

8. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 7,

said polarizer comprising a polarizing layer and a pair of substrates that sandwich said polarizing layer and are made of a substrate material, and said transparent plate being made of the substrate material used in making said substrates.

9. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 7,

said polarizer being bonded to said transparent plate.

10. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 4, said transparent plate having a surface and the surface of said transparent plate being coated with a surface active agent, or treated for electrostatic protection.

11. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 4, further comprising a mounting member and a color synthesizing prism, said optical modulation device being

mounted via the mounting member on the color synthesizing prism, said mounting member comprising:

a mounting frame plate composed of a first frame member and a second frame member that sandwich said optical modulation device

a fixed frame plate in a fixed contact with a light incident surface of said color synthesizing prism; and

an intermediate frame plate sandwiched between said mounting frame plate and said fixed frame plate.

12. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 11,

said mounting frame plate being made of a resin containing glass fiber.

13. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 11,

said mounting frame plate being made of metal.

14. (Previously Presented) A projector comprising:

a light source;

a plurality of optical modulation devices that modulate a light flux emitted from the light source according to image information;

a prism that synthesizes the light flux modulated by said plurality of optical modulation devices;

a projection unit that magnifies and projects the light flux synthesized by said prism; and

a partition that surrounds said plurality of optical modulation devices and said prism via an air layer and thereby separates said plurality of optical modulation devices and said prism from said light source and said projection unit,

said partition having a transparent plate fitted in a light incident window corresponding to a light incident surface of at least one optical modulation device, and a light

outgoing window that emits the light flux modulated by said at least one optical modulation device therefrom.

15. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 14, further comprising:

a fan that circulates air located inside said partition.

16. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 14, further comprising:

a polarizer bonded to said transparent plate.

17. (Previously Presented) The projector according to Claim 14,

said transparent plate having a surface and the surface of said transparent plate being coated with a surface active agent, or treated for electrostatic protection.

18. (Previously Presented) A projector comprising:

a light source;

an optical modulation device that modulates a light flux emitted from the light source according to image information;

a transparent plate bonded to a light emitting surface of said optical modulation device, the transparent plate bonded to, and in contact with, substantially the entire light emitting surface of said optical modulation device;

a power supply unit;

an interface circuit;

a control circuit that controls the optical modulation device; and

an outer casing that accommodates the light source, the optical modulation device, the transparent plate, the power supply unit, the interface circuit, and the control circuit.

19. (Currently Amended) A projector comprising:

a light source;

an optical modulation device that modulates a light flux emitted from the light source according to image information;

~~a transparent plate bonded to, and in contact with, substantially the entire length of a light emitting surface of said optical modulation device;~~

a projection unit that magnifies and projects the light flux modulated by said optical modulation device;

a partition that surrounds said optical modulation device via an air layer and thereby separates said optical modulation device from said light source and said projection unit, said partition having a transparent plate fitted in a light incident window corresponding to a light incident surface of said optical modulation device, and a light outgoing window that emits the light flux modulated by said optical modulation device therefrom;

a power supply unit;

an interface circuit;

a control circuit that controls the optical modulation device; and

an outer casing that accommodates the light source, the optical modulation device, the partition, the power supply unit, the interface circuit, and the control circuit.